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SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

EXHIBIT NO. 5

DATE 3-11-2009

BILL NO. HB 623

March 9, 2009

TO: SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 623

The Montana Economic Development Association (MEDA) strongly supports HB 623 and we urge you to support its adoption by the Montana Legislature.

Affordable housing is critically important to economic development. Competitive companies need highly skilled workers who enjoy decent affordable housing. This bill supports the creation of affordable housing at no cost to the state taxpayer.

Allowing cities and counties to have the option to support affordable housing development in their communities through the sale of land at below market prices makes sense. City and County leaders know which projects will benefit the residents of their community.

Thank you,

Jim Davison  
President

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